

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 USIA-06 /018 R

DRAFTED BY CU/AF/GWCAREY/HL
APPROVED BY CU/AF: ASDALSIMER
AF/E/RBARRETT(PHONE)

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P 202300Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, ET

SUBJECT: FY-76 IV PROGRAM: GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS GROUP

REF: A) STATE 117775, B) ADDIS 5632

1. CAPT LAKEW YIZENGAW AND WUBISHET DESSALENGE WERE RE-LEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL ON MAY 19 IN GOOD CONDITION.
2. CU/AF PROGRAM OFFICER MET WITH LAKEW AND WUBISHET AS THEY JOINED LT. KINATI AND ESCORT IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FOR EVALUATION OF U.S. TOUR. CAPT LAKEW DID SUFFER FROM A FRACTURED RIB, BUT IS RECOVERING WELL AND HAS ONE ARM IN A SLING TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON HIS SIDE. HE IS IN GOOD SPIRITS BUT CONTINUES TO EXPERIENCE SOME MINOR PAINS. WUBISHET DESSALENGE'S FRACTURE IS HEALING WELL WITH LESS CHANCE OF PERMANENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT. WUBISHET HOWEVER, CONTINUES TO SUFFER FROM HEADACHES OTHER MINOR ACHES AND PAINS. BOTH GRANTEES WITHSTOOD THE FLIGHT FROM CHICAGO TO WASHINGTON WITH NO DIFFICULTIES, HOWEVER WUBISHET IS SCHEDULED FOR FURTHER WASHINGTON MEDICAL CHECK BEFORE ATTEMPTING LONG FLIGHT HOME.

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3. BOTH GRANTEES WERE POSITIVE CONCERNING THEIR HOSPITAL

EXPERIENCE. THEY REPORT THE MEDICAL ATTENTION WAS

EXCELLENT AND THAT THE STAFF GAVE THEM EVERY CONSIDERATION. LAKEW AND WUBISHET RECEIVED IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE AT THE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IN STERLING/ROCK FALLS AND WERE THEN TRANSPORTED TO A LARGER HOSPITAL IN ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS FOR FURTHER TESTS AND TREATMENT. THE EXAMINING PHYSICIAN CLEARED THEM FOR RELEASE MAY 16; HOWEVER, THE GRANTEEES PREFERRED TO REST AND FURTHER BUILD THEIR STRENGTH FOR TRAVEL ON MAY 19.

4. THE ENTIRE GROUP EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THEIR U.S. TOUR WHICH THEY INDICATED HELPED THEM TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS AND ASSETS TO BE FOUND IN AMERICA. THEY WERE IMPRESSED BY THE RACIAL VARIETY- , VARIANCES IN WAYS OF LIFE AND GENERALLY IMPRESSED BY THE GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF THE U.S. CU/AF CONFIDENT THAT INSPITE OF THE ACCIDENT IN ILLINOIS, THE GROUP WILL HAVE POSITIVE EXPERIENCES AND ASTUTE OBSERVATIONS TO RELATE FOR A LONG TIME.

5. CAPT. LAKEW, LT. KINATI AND POSSIBLY MR. WUBISHET APPEAR PREPARED TO DEPART THE U.S. AS SCHEDULED ON MAY 22 FOR RETURN TO ETHIOPIA VIA LONDON. LAKEW AND KINATI WILL APPARENTLY REACH A DECISION RE TRIP TO YUGOSLAVIA PER REFTEL (B) AFTER DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR MINISTRY IN ADDIS.

6. DEPARTMENT WILL POUCH COPY OF ACCIDENT REPORT AND MEDICAL RECORDS UPON RECEIPT. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE124316
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/GWCAREY/HL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760196-0873
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760531/aaaabalb.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 117775
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FY-76 IV PROGRAM: GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS GROUP
TAGS: OEXC, ET
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006